

16 November 1972

Dear Mr. Fletcher:

Thank you very much for your kind invitation to attend the launch of Apollo 17. Unfortunately, it will be impossible for me to be absent from Washington on that day. As much as I would like to go, I deeply regret having to miss this historic event. It was a wonderful and thrilling experience to be present at the launch of Apollo 16.

With much appreciation and every good wish for continued success,

Faithfully,

Vernon A. Walters  
Lieutenant General, USA

Honorable James C. Fletcher  
Administrator  
National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Washington, D. C. 20546